

Maintenance of S.T.D. Phones Meter Reading

2845. SHRI UMMAREDDY
VENKATESWARALU:
SHRI GOVINDRAO NIKAM:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether recording for the charges of STD Phones are maintained only at the respective exchanges;

(b) whether Government are aware of the general complaints from the subscribers that the meter reading is often wrong and the subscribers are over-charged; and

(c) if so, the steps proposed to be taken to remedy the situation and whether Government propose to maintain the meters with the subscribers as is being done in the case of power consumption?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) We have complaints about excess billing but not necessarily due to wrong metering.

(c) The details of steps taken by the Government to remedy the situation are indicated in the attached statement. The Government do not propose to maintain the meters at the subscribers premises as the proposal not technically feasible.

STATEMENT

Details of remedial measures taken by the Government with regard to wrong metering:

(i) Customers served by Electronic Telephone Exchanges (EIOB) can

avail Dynamic STD Control Facility with which they can lock or unlock their STD/ISD service and exercise effective control on the use of their telephones. In addition, they get detailed bills for STD/ISD calls.

(ii) Exchange equipment including metering circuits are being tested regularly to eliminate any possibility of wrong billing.

(iii) All vital points, where there is a possibility of deliberate mischief and/or tampering of the telephone lines, are kept locked.

International Children's Films Festival at Trivandrum.

2846. SHRI PALA K.M. MATHEW: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Doordarshan has not made live telecast of the International children's Film Festival at Trivandrum;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS): (a) The inaugural as well as the closing functions of the International Children's Film Festival at Trivandrum were telecast live by Trivandrum Kendra for local viewing.

(b) Does not arise.

Potential of Hydel Power Generation

2847. SHRI ANNA JOSHI: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state: